

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated September 2, 2009 in which the Examiner objected to claim 13, rejected claims 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

As indicated above, a minor informality in claim 13 has been corrected. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the objection to claim 13.

As indicated above, the claims have been amended to correspond to the written description in the specification. Applicants respectfully bring the Examiner's attention to the published application in paragraphs 2, 3, 40, 42-43, 48, 52, 60, 83 and 228. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

As indicated above, claims 8 and 11-13 have been amended in order to make explicit what is implicit in the claims. The amendment is unrelated to a statutory requirement for patentability.

Claim 8 claims an information processing apparatus, claim 11 claims an information process method, claim 12 claims a program record medium on which a program is recorded and claim 13 claims a program causing a computer to perform an information process. The apparatus, method, medium and program read an index management file from a disc-shaped record medium and store the index management file to a memory when the disc-shaped record medium is loaded into an information process apparatus. Thereafter, when a clip recorded on the disc-shaped record medium is designated to be reproduced by a reproduction command, the corresponding clip management file for the designated clip is read from the disc-shaped record medium and stored to the memory.

By (a) reading and storing an index management file when a disc-shaped record medium is loaded into an information process apparatus and (b) thereafter reading and storing a clip management file when a clip recorded on the disc-shaped record medium is designated to be reproduced by a reproduction command, as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13, the claimed invention provides an apparatus, method, medium and program in which information necessary for reproducing data from a disc can be obtained quickly and without a time lag. The prior art does not show, teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13.

Claims 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over *David, et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0131764) in view of *Takagi, et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0085997) and *Um, et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0138236).

David, et al. appears to disclose a control processor may be arranged in operation to change the header information between successive packets recorded repeatedly onto a linear recording medium which have different metadata objects [0057]. Changing the header information between successive packets which have different metadata objects provides a simple and convenient way of recognizing when metadata packets which are repeatedly recorded change from one group to another. By detecting the change in the header information, a reproduction apparatus may determine whether the metadata packets recovered from the recording medium contain more than one metadata packet which is the same. The reproduction apparatus may therefore discard redundant metadata packets which are those which are recovered after a first metadata packet of any one type has been recovered [0058].

Thus, *David, et al.* merely discloses changing header information between successive recorded packets and discarding redundant metadata packets. Nothing in *David, et al.* shows, teaches or suggests (a) when a disc-shaped recording medium is loaded into an information

process apparatus, the index management file is read from the disc-shaped record medium and stored to a memory and (b) thereafter when a clip recorded on the disc-shaped recorded medium is designated to be reproduced by a reproduction command, the corresponding clip management file for the designated clip is read from the disc-shaped record medium and stored to the memory as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Rather, *David, et al.* merely discloses changing head information between successive packets and discarding redundant metadata packets during reproduction.

Additionally, *David, et al.* appears to disclose a signal processing system comprising a recorder 500, 204 for recording information signals representing video, audio and/or data material on a tape 502, 126 (abstract, lines 1-3, emphasis added).

Thus, *David, et al.* merely discloses a recording tape 502, 126. Nothing in *David, et al.* shows, teaches or suggests a disc-shaped record medium as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Rather, *David, et al.* merely discloses recording information signals onto a tape.

Takagi, et al. appears to disclose a distribution program editing system 10 which registers metadata, input at a planning processing and at a casting processing, into a database managed in a concentrated fashion by an archival manager 40A of an archived system 40 (abstract).

Thus, *Takagi, et al.* merely discloses registering metadata into an archival system. Nothing in *Takagi, et al.* shows, teaches or suggests (a) when a disc-shaped record medium is loaded into an information processing apparatus, an index management file is read from the disc-shaped record medium and stored to a memory and (b) thereafter when a clip recorded on the disc-shaped record medium is designated to be reproduced by a reproduction command, a corresponding clip management file for the designated clip is read from the disc-shaped record

medium and stored to the memory as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Rather, *Takagi, et al.* only discloses registering metadata into an archival system.

Um, et al. appears to disclose a digital video recorder (DVR) directory containing directories "PLAYLIST", "CLIPINF", "STREAM" and "STILLINF" [0010].

Thus, *Um, et al.* only discloses a directory and subdirectories therein. Nothing in *Um, et al.* shows, teaches or suggests (a) when a disc-shaped record medium is loaded into an information process apparatus, an index management file is read from the disc-shaped record medium and stored to a memory and (b) thereafter when a clip recorded on the disc-shaped record medium is designated to be reproduced by a reproduction command, the corresponding clip management file for the designated clip is read from the disc-shape record medium and stored to the memory as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Rather, *Um, et al.* only discloses a directory containing subdirectories.

A combination of *David, et al.*, *Takagi, et al.* and *Um, et al.* would merely suggest discarding redundant metadata packets during reproduction as taught by *David, et al.*, to register metadata into an archival system as taught by *Takagi, et al.* and to have a DVR directory with subdirectories as taught by *Um, et al.* Nothing in the combination of the references shows, teaches or suggests (a) when the disc-shaped record medium is loaded into an information process apparatus, the index management file is read from the disc-shaped record medium and stored to a memory and (b) thereafter when a clip recorded on the disc-shaped record medium is designated to be reproduced by a reproduction command, the corresponding clip management file for the designated clip is read from the disc-shaped record medium and stored to the memory as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 8 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 9-10 depend from claim 8 and recite additional features. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 9-10 would not have been obvious within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 103 over *David, et al.*, *Takagi, et al.* and *Um, et al.* at least for the reasons as set forth above. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Thus, it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

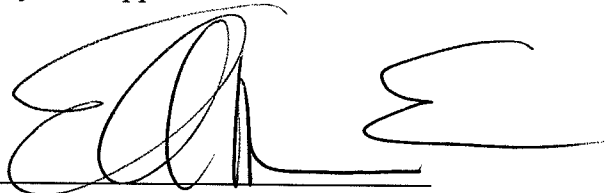
In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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